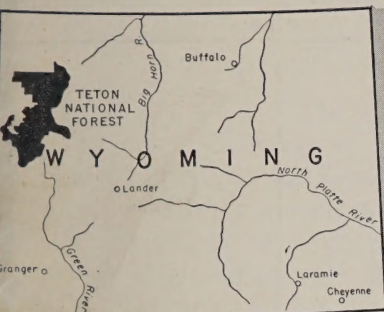


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



TETON

NATIONAL FOREST



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
no edition in cat.
FOREST SERVICE

Intermountain Region

Issued 1949



WELCOME TO TETON NATIONAL FOREST

This forest comprises some 2,700 square miles of mountainous country situated on the headwaters of two important streams—the South Fork of Snake River and the Yellowstone River. Because it is so located and heavy snowfall occurs here, its greatest value lies in the large quantities of water it produces. Agricultural and urban communities in Wyoming and adjoining States depend on the Teton for irrigation and power.

Maintenance of this watershed through fire protection and regulated grazing and timber cutting is the local forest organization's first objective. The general objective is to so integrate the forest's many uses that the greatest possible benefit can be derived, both economically and socially, by the people who depend upon it.

The Forest Supervisor's office is at Jackson, Wyo. Ranger headquarters are:

Blackrock Ranger Station on the Buffalo River.

Goosewing Ranger Station on the Gros Ventre River.

Bryan Flat Ranger Station on the Hoback River.

Jackson Ranger Station at Jackson.

Personnel at these stations are familiar with the forest and will gladly give you available information to help you enjoy your visit.

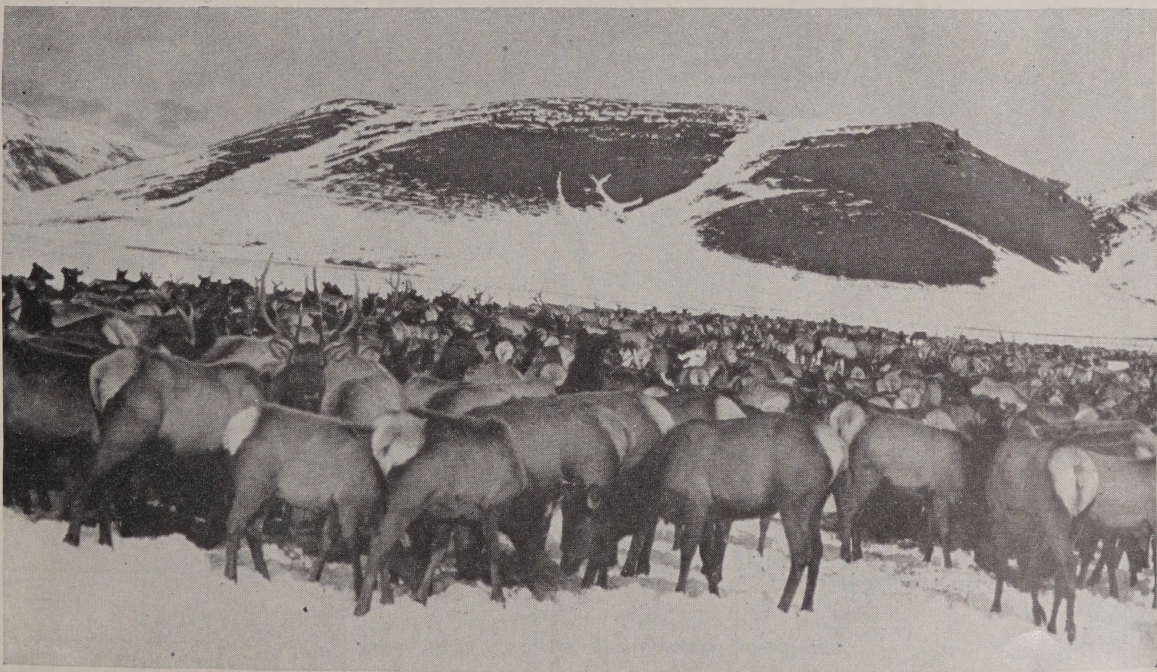


The Teton has several hundred miles of trout streams and many small mountain lakes, which provide excellent fishing throughout the summer months.

The Jackson Hole Wapiti herd—commonly called elk—numbers about 15,000. Nearly half of this herd winters on the Fish and Wildlife Service's National Elk Refuge adjacent to the town of Jackson and on feed lots operated by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. The balance of the herd seeks the foothill ranges and more favorable slopes of the Teton adjacent to the valleys. The number of elk wintering on the forest must be limited to balance with available forage in order to prevent damage to soil and water values and to avert serious losses through starvation.

Moose, mule deer, and mountain sheep are also present in the forest in considerable numbers. To those interested in wildlife study or photography, the Jackson Hole area, both in and out of the Teton is a veritable paradise.

Big game hunting seasons are established each year by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and occur in September and October. Elk, deer, and bear may be taken on the general big game license. Special permits through drawings are issued for hunting of limited numbers of mountain sheep and moose.





Lodgepole pine, now becoming more important commercially, occurs in excellent stands over several hundred square miles. Large quantities are used locally for building logs, fencing material, and to a lesser extent for saw timber.



An integral part of a great vacation land, the forest has many thousands of visitors annually. It offers opportunities for summer camping, hiking, pack trips, fishing, hunting—in fact nearly every form of outdoor recreation. Improved free public camping facilities have been developed in Hoback Canyon on Highway No. 187, and in Granite Creek. The Granite Creek Area also has a public swimming pool with water from Granite Hot Springs.

Douglas-fir and Engelmann spruce occur in commercial quantities on the Teton and provide most of the present saw timber cut. Several small sawmills operate to supply lumber for local demand and export to nearby communities.

The Teton Wilderness Area lies along the Continental Divide and includes the headwaters of the Yellowstone and Buffalo Rivers and smaller tributaries of Snake River. It covers about 885 square miles. One of its points of interest is Two Ocean Pass, where Two Ocean Creek divides and sends one stream to the Pacific slope and one to the Atlantic. Here trout can readily pass over the Continental Divide. In this wilderness area, roads and commercial development are excluded so that primitive and natural conditions may be perpetuated. The only improvements within the area are trails, a telephone line, and a few simple cabins used in administration and fire protection.

Some 15,000 cattle from nearby high-mountain valleys graze through the summer months on the less rugged and more accessible parts of the forest. Cattle raising is the main agricultural pursuit in the valleys. A small number of sheep are grazed for short periods on the southern part of the forest.





The Teton offers almost limitless opportunity for ski touring. Powder snow is available at various elevations throughout the winter months from November to May. A well-developed ski area, including a chair lift and rope tows, is situated just outside the town of Jackson on Snow King Mountain. Other developments on national forest land are being planned so that they may be developed as need for them is apparent.

CAMPING, PICNICKING, SWIMMING

Improved forest camp grounds are provided at the following locations:

1. Hoback Forest Camp on Hoback River near U S 187, about 25 miles from Jackson.
2. Granite Falls Forest Camp about 9 miles off U S 187 in Granite Creek. Reached via forest road leaving U S 187 at Granite Creek.
3. Granite Hot Springs and Picnic Area in Granite Creek about 1 mile above Granite Falls Camp.

Parking space, camp or picnic tables, stoves, sanitation facilities, and running water are available on these areas for free public use. At Granite Hot Springs there is also a small public swimming pool and dressing rooms.

Information on availability and use of public camping facilities in Teton National Park at Jenny Lake, and in the Jackson Hole National Monument at Jackson Lake, near Moran, may be obtained from the National Park Service.

FISHING

The Jackson Hole region offers excellent trout fishing. We suggest that you contact local fishermen, guides, game wardens, or forest officers as to the best time and most promising spots to try your luck. If you are interested in fishing at some of the more inaccessible streams or lakes, there are outfitters in the valley with whom you can arrange for your trip.

BIG GAME HUNTING

Jackson Hole is famous for its big game hunting. From 5,000 to 7,000 elk hunters bag an average of about 3,500 animals annually. Good hunting is also afforded for deer, moose, mountain sheep, and bear, including grizzlies. The moose and sheep are hunted only under special permit through drawings conducted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. Outfitters establish numerous hunting camps throughout the forest. These camps provide meals, lodging, guide service, pack and saddle horses, and all the other necessary equipment to make the hunting trip a success. The influx of fall hunters usually taxes all the available outfitting facilities. If you are planning a hunting trip, we suggest that you make arrangements well in advance of the hunting season.

WINTER SPORTS

The Snow King Mountain Ski Area is located at the outskirts of Jackson. A 4,000-foot chair lift and rope tows are provided. Slopes to meet the ability of all skiers from novice to expert are available. The top of the mountain affords an excellent view of Jackson, the National Elk Refuge, the Teton Range, and in fact much of the entire Jackson Hole Area. The chair lift is operated during the summer months to accommodate visitors interested in the view and other recreational activity. Excellent skiing conditions are also found on the undeveloped areas around Teton Pass on State Highway 22 and Togwotee Pass on U S 287.

POINTS OF INTEREST

The entire Jackson Hole region has much to offer in the way of scenic attraction. Many of the most beautiful spots can be reached only on foot or by horseback. The rugged Teton Range, comprising the Teton National Park, forms a back drop for many of the views within the Teton National Forest. The entire area is of historical interest in that it was traversed by early explorers and exploration parties. In 1812 the Astorian Expedition passed through the Hoback Canyon. This expedition, headed by Wilson P. Hunt, was instrumental in holding the Northwest Territory for the United States. The Jackson Hole area formed the setting for at least part of the widely read novel, The Virginian, by Owen Wister.

At the V-V Ranch near the upper end of the Hoback Canyon is a historical monument indicating the spot at which the first Protestant religious services were held in this section of the country. These were conducted by Rev. Samuel Parker, August 25, 1835.

Battle Mountain was the site of an Indian skirmish occurring about 1870 and is situated north of the Hoback River near Granite Creek. Limited numbers of stone arrowheads and other Indian implements are still to be found in various parts of Jackson Hole.

The Red Hills of the Gros Ventre country are quite picturesque. Red stone or clay formations of this nature are more or less prevalent throughout the Gros Ventre drainage.

Gros Ventre Slide, about 6 miles east of Kelly, occurred in 1925. In this slide, which happened in only a minute or two, a whole mountainside slid into and across the Gros Ventre River, forming Lower Slide Lake. The dam held for about 2 years until it became saturated and the pressure of the water behind it caused it to break, losing a tremendous flood. Several lives were lost and the village of Kelly was almost completely wiped out. A lake of several hundred acres still remains although its level is about 50 feet below the level of the original lake. Upper Slide Lake, about 15 miles farther up the Gros Ventre, was formed in the same manner but at a much earlier date. Numerous specimens of petrified wood are found in the vicinity of this lake.

Two attractive falls occur in the Gros Ventre River several miles beyond the end of the existing road. Ousel Falls is a steep, smooth cascade while the Upper Falls is a sheer drop of a hundred or more feet.

Possibly nowhere can big game animals be more easily seen in their natural habitat than in the Teton Wilderness Area. This vast undeveloped area is reached readily by pack outfit from nearly any direction. The most common entrances are Pacific Creek; Buffalo River near Turpin Meadows; and from the northeast by way of the Thorofore River. Beautiful and interesting falls occur on both the North and South Forks of the Buffalo River within the wilderness area.

